

***HAVLISH* PLAINTIFFS' RENEWED MOTION
FOR AN ORDER CREATING A COMMON BENEFIT FUND AND
AUTHORIZING CERTAIN DISBURSEMENTS THEREFROM**

EXHIBIT 5

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1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
1 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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2
3 In re: TERRORIST ATTACKS ON 03 MDL 1570 (GBD)
3 SEPTEMBER 11, 2001,

4 -----x

5
5 New York, N.Y.
6 July 13, 2011
6 12:03 p.m.

7 Before:

8 HON. GEORGE B. DANIELS

District Judge

10 HON. FRANK MAAS

Magistrate Judge

12 APPEARANCES

13 KREINDLER & KREINDLER LLP

14 Attorneys for Ashton Plaintiffs

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1 (Case called)

2 THE COURT: Let me start out resolving some issues
3 that the parties have raise with the Court for this conference
4 so we can put those aside and see what else we have to address.

5 First, the things that Magistrate Judge Maas and I
6 have identified that are appropriate to address today. There
7 was a request for entry of Rule 54(b) judgment. I did get the
8 proposed order. I reviewed it. It is my understanding that
9 all parties have agreed to it. I have signed it and am ready
10 to file it. That will be done today.

11 There also has been identified the motion that was
12 filed by the Bin Laden Group, a motion to dismiss, I believe.
13 As far as we can tell, that is the only open motion to dismiss
14 that was made since the last set of decisions. I will be
15 moving forward to finish that up and go ahead and resolve that
16 motion.

17 There is also a motion for default against the
18 sovereign defendants. I have read the first set of papers. My
19 understanding is that I was supposed to receive a file today.
20 I don't know if I have received this.

21 MR. FLEMING: Timothy Fleming for the Havlish
22 plaintiffs. Your Honor, this morning I went to the sealing
23 clerk's office and filed the evidence under seal. So that's
24 been done. I have a courtesy copy in a box here, which I'd be
25 happy to turn over to you forthwith.

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1 THE COURT: That would be helpful. I'm ready to move
2 in accord with that. Between now and the next date I'll be
3 moving forward with that, too.

4 There is an issue that is in dispute with regard to a
5 motion for assessment of damages against defaulted defendants.
6 I discussed this issue with Magistrate Judge Maas and
7 considered the positions of all of the parties. You can
8 further react if you wish to what I decide. This is the way I
9 decided is appropriate to proceed on that.

10 I'm going to refer it to Magistrate Judge Maas for an
11 inquest on damages. I'm going to allow the plaintiffs to
12 present both their legal theory -- I've read the argument --
13 both their legal theory and their amounts for damages to
14 Magistrate Judge Maas, have Magistrate Judge Maas review that,
15 issue a report and recommendation to me. You will have the
16 opportunity to present that evidence, and Magistrate Maas will
17 review it and make a report and recommendation to me.

18 I will review the report and recommendation after
19 giving the parties an opportunity to object to that report and
20 recommendation and oppose entering that judgment either on the
21 basis of the methodology used for determining the damages or
22 based on the amount that is recommended or based on any other
23 argument that the parties wish to make with regard to opposing
24 entering a damages amount. It will give the plaintiff some
25 opportunity to present and lay out that record.

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1 I've seen the numbers already and the methodology
2 requested in terms of the damages and treble damages requested
3 by Federal Insurance and the nature of those damages. But I'd
4 like to have Magistrate Judge Maas review that, put it in a
5 report and recommendation, so there will be no surprises as to
6 the other parties, particularly the defendants.

7 If you want to argue there is some prejudice to you in
8 terms of entering those judgments, you can articulate that.
9 But hopefully between now and the next time we meet you will
10 have an opportunity to do that.

11 I will ask Magistrate Judge Maas to give all of the
12 parties more than the regular time to object, maybe a 30-day or
13 60-day period to object, and allow any defendants who are still
14 pending to submit objections. If you submit the same type of
15 objection, try to make it a representative set of objections
16 rather than individual objections.

17 After considering all of the concerns and even
18 understanding that there may be both strategic and tactical
19 reasons why the plaintiffs want judgment entered and strategic
20 or tactical reasons why the defendants may not, I will consider
21 not just the substantive arguments with regard to the
22 methodology for determining those damages and the amount of
23 damages but any other prejudice that you think might occur if I
24 were to enter judgment.

25 Plaintiffs will have a full opportunity to lay that

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1 out and everyone will have a full opportunity to be heard
2 before I determine whether to adopt that report and
3 recommendation and thereby enter a damages amount.

4 I will allow Magistrate Judge Maas to decide, in
5 whatever manner he deems appropriate, whether or not the papers
6 are sufficient, whether or not the papers that are already
7 submitted are fully sufficient, or whether or not further
8 affidavits or further hearings are appropriate.

9 Given that method, my initial reaction is -- and it's
10 not a ruling; I am going to let Magistrate Judge Maas determine
11 the appropriateness of that -- but my initial reaction is any
12 defaulting defendant still would have a right to participate in
13 the inquest on damages and to oppose those determinations of
14 damages. Defendants who are not defaulting defendants do not
15 have that right. I will extend to them the right to oppose my
16 either adopting Magistrate Judge Maas's report and
17 recommendation in toto or adopting in any manner that which
18 they find is inappropriate or prejudicial to them.

19 I want to give all parties an opportunity to do that
20 so you can be confident that you can move forward to establish
21 those damages and you can be confident that you will have an
22 opportunity to be heard before that final decision is made by
23 me as to whether or not to enter that order. You will know
24 fully what the nature of that proposed order will be and
25 rationale for that. I think that is the most efficient and

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1 appropriate way to do that considering everyone's concerns and
2 interests.

3 Those are the main issues that we examined for this
4 conference.

5 I understand that you have been reporting to
6 Magistrate Judge Maas on the progress of discovery. You can
7 either report where you think you will be at what point in time
8 or we can see where you are or think you will be when we meet
9 the next time.

10 At this point we should probably go ahead and schedule
11 Friday, January 13th for the next conference. We'll see if we
12 need it. I think the most efficient process has been and
13 continues to be that I should get letters from the parties
14 indicating whether you think we should have that, what issues
15 you think we should address, so I can see if we can address the
16 appropriate issues before the conference and be prepared to
17 intelligently address the issues at the conference.

18 Those are the issues that I wanted to address in the
19 first instance, knowing that those issues are out there. Now
20 I'll turn to the parties and you can let me know whether or not
21 there are other issues we need to address, whether you have any
22 other suggestions or objections that you have identified in the
23 way we anticipate proceeding. I'll let you continue your
24 discovery discussions with Magistrate Judge Maas right after we
25 finish here so you can continue to make progress in that

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1 regard.

2 Let me first turn to plaintiffs. Are there any other
3 issues or reaction to that proposal?

4 MR. CARTER: Sean Carter on behalf of the plaintiff's
5 executive committees. We are fine with the proposal for Judge
6 Maas to handle the inquest into damages and the related
7 briefings.

8 Your Honor had mentioned the potential deadline for
9 people to object to Judge Maas's ruling might be extended by as
10 much as 30 or 60 days. The only concern we have is that we do
11 believe the pool of Al Qaeda assets that exist at this moment
12 is very vulnerable to depletion or outright exhaustion as a
13 result of some collateral attack by other parties. We would
14 like an opportunity to address those issues to Judge Maas, and
15 perhaps he can set what he thinks is an appropriate deadline
16 for objections.

17 THE COURT: That's fine. If you're going to have
18 others have the opportunity to object, you ought to discuss it
19 with each other and try to figure out whether there is an
20 objection, if they have an objection. Frankly, I think 60 days
21 is more time than is appropriate. 30 days is probably a
22 reasonable amount of time, if needed. Magistrate Judge Maas he
23 can make the final determination either way, whether he thinks
24 he wants to keep it on the same regular schedule or extend it
25 out.

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1 My initial reaction would be that it might be
2 appropriate to go ahead and send out notice that the parties
3 should object, file objections within the normal period of
4 time. But if they believe that they need a greater period of
5 time, they should request a greater period of time, and that
6 time might be extended automatically as much as 30 days if they
7 needed that extra time. I agree that much more than 30 days
8 might be detrimental to their interests. If 60 days is
9 necessary and reasonable or 14 days is still reasonable, I'll
10 let Magistrate Judge Maas determine that.

11 I will expect at least a request for a greater period
12 of time than the normal time by the defense and some
13 significant justification if that request is going to be beyond
14 30 days. I want to give Judge Maas flexibility to deal with it
15 in the way he thinks is appropriate. I will have some
16 flexibility, and all the parties can feel that they will have
17 the full opportunity to be heard appropriately before any final
18 order.

19 I think you should sit down with Judge Maas
20 immediately to try to figure out on what schedule you want to
21 do this, how quickly you want to do it, give him an opportunity
22 to go through all of the papers to see whether or not the
23 papers are sufficient, if he wants more papers or he wants to
24 hear from you individually further on it or he thinks it is
25 appropriate to bring in some witnesses.

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1 MR. CARTER: Thank you, your Honor.

2 MR. KREINDLER: Good morning, your Honor. Jim
3 Kreindler for the plaintiffs. Since we haven't all been
4 together for a while, I thought I'd stand up and talk to you
5 for a minute about how do we get to the end of the case and
6 what some of the upcoming developments are going to be, and the
7 matters you touched on affect that.

8 From reading the news, we are all aware that in the
9 last week South Sudan was born. With that happening, I think
10 in the next few months there is a reasonably good chance that
11 the administration is going to take Sudan off the list of state
12 sponsors of terrorism. Sudan is one of the very important
13 defendants in our case for hosting bin Laden before he moved to
14 Afghanistan and then continuing to support him.

15 When Sudan comes off the list, U.S. companies -- oil
16 companies, natural gas companies -- are going to be able to
17 invest in Sudan. When that happens, I, we, believe that Sudan,
18 like Libya, will want to get out of all U.S. litigation. I
19 think there is a reasonable chance that the administration is
20 going to do with Sudan what it did and what Congress did in
21 2008 with Libya. In 2008 the Libyan Claims Resolution Act was
22 passed that ended all litigation with Libya and all
23 plaintiffs -- Pan Am 103 plaintiffs and all other American
24 plaintiffs -- were paid \$10 million a death, 3 million an
25 injury, and money for insurance and property claims.

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1 If that unfolds as we hope it will in the next few
2 months or the next year, whether it's by January 13th or next
3 year, we may be in a position where Sudan is going to pay a
4 large sum of money and get out of this case and the other cases
5 against Sudan. If that happens, I think that will be an
6 enormously important event and should start a cascade of
7 resolutions with other defendants over time.

8 We also have Iran. Who knows when Iran's regime is
9 going to change and when Iran might come off the list. But if
10 Sudan pays the kind of money that Libya did, \$3.7 billion, that
11 will start filling up the pot that we need with this formula of
12 10, 3, and property loss.

13 I want to comment on the Havlish motion that your
14 Honor addressed. We are very concerned with timing. If a
15 hearing occurs at the wrong time, it will or it could derail
16 resolution with Sudan. In the case of Libya, you may remember
17 that in 2007 a very large judgment was rendered for the six
18 Americans killed in the UTA bombing against Libya. I can tell
19 you from personal experience, having spent two years, that that
20 delayed the resolution with Libya by at least a year or two and
21 nearly killed it.

22 What the Havlish people want, those 20 plaintiffs, is
23 fine. But we have a well-thought-out strategy for the
24 thousands of death cases, the thousands of injury cases, and
25 the property damage, and we are very concerned with the timing.

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1 If a hearing there occurs at the wrong moment, it could kill
2 the process with Sudan. So our request --

3 THE COURT: I'm not quite sure exactly at this point,
4 how I determine what was the wrong moment?

5 MR. KREINDLER: My request, since we have one of the
6 lawyers in the Havlish case, is that they consult with us, the
7 plaintiffs' committee, before any public hearing. It may not
8 make a difference, but it may be important. And I wanted to
9 talk about these things because the Court is here, Havlish has
10 a representative, the defendants are here.

11 I should say that this motion we have with Al Qaeda is
12 part of the process. There is no mystery that working on this
13 case without being paid for ten years is not an easy thing for
14 my colleagues and I. We all look at the frozen assets, which
15 isn't that much money. 8 to \$10 million in the context of 9/11
16 is a drop in the bucket.

17 But we were able to come up with a formula where, if
18 we are able to recover that money, we can use that to fund
19 expenses going forward. That's why it's important for us. Not
20 that it's going to compensate anyone in an appreciable way, but
21 we want to be able to get that for our clients so we've got a
22 little help over the next few years as these events unfold.

23 We look forward to doing this hearing soon. I'm
24 hoping that I can convince my colleagues on the defense side
25 that there is no reason to object. By any stretch of the

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1 imagination, whether the damages on 9/11 are 50 billion or 500
2 billion, it's a lot more than the 8 to 10 million in frozen
3 assets, and we could use it.

4 The last thing I'd like to say is I'm glad we have the
5 54(b) issue resolved, because, as events unfold with Sudan, the
6 appeals can move forward in the Second Circuit and we could be
7 in a position in a year, year and a half, where we know for
8 sure who is in and who is out. And then with the defendants
9 who are left, if we get this done with Sudan, it's before the
10 Court, we've got a methodology for distributing money, and we
11 can really make some progress.

12 I wanted to talk about this now because ten years is a
13 long time. We do see an end in sight. Thank you for these
14 orders and listening to me for five minutes. I know you have
15 another matter. I wanted to take a few minutes on kind of the
16 long range as we are focusing on each of the trees in the
17 forest. Thank you, your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Not everyone will have necessarily the
19 input on every issue that they want, but I want to make sure
20 that all parties are informed as to every aspect of the
21 progress of the case. If they wish to have some input, they
22 can seek it with the Court or discuss it with their colleagues
23 or object to it. Both Magistrate Judge Maas and I have tried
24 to proceed in a consistent manner in that regard.

25 Did you want to respond?

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1 MR. FLEMING: Yes, your Honor. Timothy Fleming for
2 the Havlish plaintiffs. First of all I want to say Mr.
3 Kreindler's estimates of 20 plaintiffs is incorrect. There are
4 more like 60 decedent estates and representatives of the
5 estates involving some 300 plaintiffs, 300 claimants in the
6 Havlish case, who are every bit as important as however many
7 are represented by other counsel. In fact, we are the ones who
8 actually put forward the evidence regarding sovereign.

9 Now, if these negotiations or these diplomatic gambits
10 are in play, it is the first I've heard about it. Mr.
11 Kreindler has not seen fit to advise the Havlish team of the
12 existence of it. We would like to talk to them about it and we
13 would like to know about it. We certainly don't think it is a
14 reason to delay the hearing vis-a-vis the sovereign Islamic
15 Republic of Iran, Sudan.

16 I have been accompanied to court today by Mrs. Ellen
17 Saracini, who is the wife and widow of Captain Victor Saracini,
18 who was the captain and pilot of United Flight 175 that crashed
19 into the south tower. She has come today in hopes of the
20 addressing the Court very briefly concerning her desire and the
21 Havlish plaintiffs' desire to hold a public hearing on the
22 briefings and on the papers and on the evidence that we have
23 submitted to the Court.

24 It is quite voluminous. If it would be beneficial, if
25 the Court is so inclined, to have one, we could present the

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1 essence of it in one day, and we would like to do so before the
2 10-year marker of the September 11, 2001 attacks. Ms. Saracini
3 has come to court hoping to address the Court very briefly on
4 that subject.

5 THE COURT: I don't think that is necessary. We
6 already have a process for that. We will immediately discuss
7 with you the efficient process for going forward with that.
8 You have a box that you will be delivering to me today. It
9 should be the last set of papers that I should start to review.

10 I am committed to moving forward immediately with a
11 hearing in this regard. The question is for me to organize it
12 in a way that it is efficiently conducted in terms of what is
13 necessary to moving forward without getting too extended so
14 that it's delayed.

15 With regard to the communications among the lawyers, I
16 always say I'm not an interpreter or translator for lawyers,
17 particularly if you're on the same side. Talk to each other.
18 For most of these issues, rather than talking three-way through
19 me, it would be better if you speak directly to each other. Be
20 cooperative in ways that you can be cooperative in that regard.

21 I respect her attendance here and I welcome it, but I
22 don't want to move off on a tangent in terms of what is the
23 efficient legal process that we are involved in, which I don't
24 think at this point she can assist in other than to, obviously,
25 emphasize to us by her presence her concern and urgency with

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1 regard to moving forward with a resolution as quickly as we
2 can.

3 MR. FLEMING: In a previous hearing your Honor had
4 indicated that once we filed the evidence, you would refer the
5 plaintiffs to Magistrate Judge Maas for setting up damages
6 hearings vis-a-vis the sovereign. I wonder if it would be
7 appropriate for us to at least have a preliminary meeting with
8 the magistrate in order to talk about doing that and the timing
9 for that.

10 THE COURT: Let's do that in the context of the other
11 Federal Insurance damages case. However he decides to organize
12 that, that's going to be the structure. You should have input
13 into that process even though you haven't gotten to that part
14 of the process yet.

15 If you want to do that at the same time, then discuss
16 that with Magistrate Judge Maas. Particularly to the extent
17 the issues overlap, there is no reason not to give you an
18 opportunity to demonstrate what you claim are the damages on a
19 different track than the hearing to establish the liability
20 claimed under sovereign.

21 When you meet with Magistrate Judge Maas later, if you
22 want him to either at the same time or shortly thereafter
23 examine the damages with regard to the Havlish plaintiffs,
24 there is no reason that that can't go on at the same time as
25 the Federal Insurance and as the assessment of exactly what we

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1 need to conduct with regard to liability.

2 MR. FLEMING: Thank you, your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Anything else from either party?

4 JUDGE MAAS: Because Judge Daniels has another matter,
5 I propose to meet with counsel in a different courtroom. I'm
6 trying to see whether it will be 6A or 20A. Bear with me for a
7 second. Why don't we say it will be in 6A immediately after
8 this. I don't know whether you need a reporter.

9 THE COURT: We'll call up and get another reporter.

10 JUDGE MAAS: Fine. I'll meet with the folks in 6A.

11 THE COURT: Let's continue to make progress. Bring
12 anything to my attention by letter that needs to be addressed
13 from my point of view. I'll see you on January 13th. We'll
14 schedule that at 11 o'clock also.

15 (Adjourned)

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